THEY FOTE AGAINGT THE BIENNIAL SESSIONS AMENDMENT.

The Senate Refuses to Order It to a Third Reading by a Vote of 25 to 24-It Requires 26 Votes to Pass the Amendment Proposed Amendment Against Special Exemptions of Property from Taxation.

ALBANY, March 23 .- An effort to advance to a third reading in the Senate to day Senator Stranshan's proposed amendment to the State Constitution providing for biennial sessions of the State Legislature was defeated by a vote of 25 to 25, a party vote, with the exception of Senatom Brackett of Saratoga, Malby of Ogdenscans, voting with the Democrats against the bill's advancement, and Senator McCarren, Democrat, of Brooklyn, voting with the Republicans in favor of ordering the bill to a third reading. This proposed amendmen passed the last Legislature, and if adopted at the present session will be submitted to a vote of the people next fall. The two parties in the Senate are arrayed for and against the amendment with the exceptions noted.

The bill has been in Committee of the Whole for several weeks past, Senator Stranahan awaiting an opportunity to call it up when he was sure that he had the required twenty-six votes. He called the bill up to-day in Commit-tee of the Whole for consideration, thinking Senator Willis was with him, but Senator Stranahan reckoned without his host. The Senate spent over two hours in discussing the amendment. Senators Brackett, Douglas, Malby and Grady opposed the amendment, declaring that the great State of New York required annual sessions of the Legislature and that the people were not in favor of the proposed

Senator Malby declared that the Republicans were unwise in advocating the scheme as a party measure. He declared that the caucus which considered the measure was a runn caucus, and that in any event he did not intend to surrender his own personal opinion on a public question at the dictation of party leaders. Senator Elisworth, the Republican leader, declared that the caucus had been regularly called, and that it came with poor grace from a Senator who declined to abide by the action of

his party to give as a reason that the caucus

which made the biennial session scheme a party measure had not been properly held.

Senator Grady declared that while the Demo eratic State Convention last fall had inserted a plank in its platform in favor of biennial sessions, now that the great voice of labor had been eions, now that the great voice of abort and been raised in opposition to the measure, he had no doubt that if the Democratic State Convention was held to-morrow it would oppose the amendment. The Senator said he had opposed biennial sessions last year from principle, be-lieving that the Governor would be vested with too much power if the Legislature met once

only in two years.

Senators Stranahan, Brown and Ellsworth

Senators Stranahan, Brown and Ellsworth favored the amendment, and declared that the people should have an opportunity to vote upon the question.

The amendment was defeated by a vote of 25 to 25. Senator Ford, who presided in Committee of the Whole cast the twenty-fifth vote sgainst the amendment. Senator Grady challenged the right of the presiding officer in Committee of the Whole to vote, but it was quickly shown that he had a right to. As the vote was a tie, the amendment was declared to be lost. Senator Stranahan moved that the committee rise and report the amendment to the Senate with the recommendation that it be ordered to a third reading. This motion was defeated by the same vote as that by which the amendment was defeated, except that one Republican did not vote, though his vote would have made no difference.

A long contest ensued over the report to be made by the Committee of the Whole, which continued until 6 o'clock. Then an agreement was reached on a proposition suggested by Senator Grady. It was that the Biennial Sesion amendment should be taken out of Committee of the Whole, which not on the table of the Whole and laid on the table, the motion to take it from the table to be made next Tuesday, both sides agreeing that if at that time twenty-six Senators do not vote to take the bill from the table it shall be considered killed for the present session, and that the question shall not again be brought up in the Senate this year.

Assemblyman Lewis of Rochester to-day pre-

sidered killed for the present session, and that the question shall not again be brought up in the Senate this year.

Assemblyman Lewis of Rochester to-day presented a concurrent resolution proposing an amendment to Article III., section 18, of the State Constitution, prohibiting special exemptions of real and personal property from taxation by the Legislature, and regulating such exemptions by a general statute. The resolution would amend the Constitution by prohibiting the "granting to any person, firm or corporation an exemption from taxation on real or personal property."

As has been told in THE SUN, the Cities Committee of the Assembly has held up a large As has been told in THE SUN, the Cities Committee of the Assembly has held up a large number of bills making specific exemptions of property from taxation, until Mr. Lewis, who is a member of that committee, could make an investigation of the amount of property in the various large cities of the State which had been already avenued by anequal heat. This Mr. already exempted by special acts. This Mr. Lewis has done, and his investigation shows that the assessed valuation and exemptions from taxation of real property in twenty-seven cities in this State are as follows:

 cities in this State are as follows:
 \$1,472,336,777

 Total assessed valuation
 \$0,30,082,188

 Percentage of exemptions
 18.4

 Assessed valuation in New York
 \$2,950,046,318

 Exemptions in New York
 \$519,191,506

 Percentage in New York
 \$19,191,506

 Exemptions in New York
 \$30,425,000

 Exemptions in Buffalo
 \$30,725,000

 Percentage in Buffalo
 \$30,725,000

 Percentage in Buffalo
 \$10,1897,375

 Assessed valuation in Rochester
 \$10,1897,375

 Exemptions in Rochester
 \$13,394,797

 Percentage in Bochester
 13,1

 Another value constitution of the percentage in Buffalo
 \$13,394,797

Another unsuccessful attempt was made by Assemblyman Julius Harburger to-day to discharge the Assembly Committee on Electricity, Gas and Water Supply from the further consideration of his bill to provide in-cent gas for New York city. He was defeated by a vote of 72 to 62.

sideration of his bifl to provide 40-cent gas for New York city. He was defeated by a vote of 72 to 62.

Assemblyman Wilson's bill to retire from office. Superintendents of Records in Kings county Mosserop and Treadwell and Commissioners of Records Ryder, Meeker and Rasquin passed the Assembly to-day, after a brief but somewhat spirited debate, by a vote of 78 to 49, Mr. McKeewn of Brooklyn offered an amendment, which was rejected as frivolous, to entitle the bill "An act for the creation of a job for Walter B. Atterbury." the Chairman of the Executive Committee, and the Kings County Republican Committee, and the hill was passed. The two Superintendents who are to be retired, if the measure is enacted, each receives a salary of \$4,000 a year and the Commissioners of Records each \$2,000, a total of \$14,000 a year. The work is to be done by a new Commissioner, to be appointed by the District Attorney of Kings county, who shall receive a salary of \$5,000. It is also prescribed that the work of the Department of Rocords shall be completed within five years. When the Pure Beer bill of the Assembly Public Health Committee was reached to-day on the special order to which it was referred on Talesday, it was again delayed by being made a special order to seed or Talesday, it was again delayed by being made a special order on second reading for Tuesday next.

Assemblyman Brennan's bill providing for the establishment of a State Dock Commission and providing for the creation of public docks throughout the State's waterways, which had also been made a special order for to-day, was laid aside to be called up at some later day by its spossor.

Assemblyman Wingenfeld's bill to prohibit.

also been made a special order for to-day, was laid aside to be called up at some later day by its sponsor.

Assemblyman Wingenfeld's bill to prohibit the sale of liquor in department stores passed the Assembly to-day.

Genator Wilcox's bill providing that any medicine which may contain a poison, no matter in how harmless a quantity, must before being offered for sale be put up in serrated bottles, passed the Assembly to-day. It met with strenuous opposition on the part of Messrs. Hill, Fallows, Fish and Henry.

Assemblyman Cotton's bill prohibiting the transfer of Captains, Sergeants, roundsmen and patrolmen beyond the boroughs in which they are now serving, was made a special order on third reading for Tuesday morning next.

These bills were passed in the Assembly:

Mr. O'Connor's, setting aparts pier at the foot of Thirty-fourth strest on the North Biver, in the

Mr. O'Comor's, setting aparta pier at the foot of Thirty-fourth strest, on the North River, in the berough of Manhattan, for a recreation pier. Mr. Grossman's, providing for the appointment upon all commissions appointed in New York city to condemn property for public uses of a resident or

condemn property for public uses of a resident or property owner.

Mr. Meyer's, creating a Bureau of Notification in the Department of Finance in the borough of Man-hattan.

Mr. Streifier's, adding to the indentures of ap-prenticeship au agreement that suitable board, lodg-ing and medical attendance shall be furnished a minor during the continuance of the term of ap-prenticeship.

prenticeally.

Mr. Brennan's, redistricting the municipal courts
of the borough of Brooklyn in order to make provision for the appointment of two additional jus-

of the borough of Brooklyn in order to make provision for the appointment of two additional justices of such court.

In the Senate to-day when Senator Krum's
bill extending the scope of savings bank investments so as to allow them to invest in the
mortigage bonds of ten of the largest steam
railroads outside of this State was reported
favorably Senator Wagner moved to recommit
the bill. This motion was defeated, 28 to 22.

The Senate confirmed the momination of
Charles A. Wieting as State Agricultural Commissioner and of William R. Reminaton as a
member of the State Prison Commission.

Senator Plunkitt to-day introduced a bill authorizing the New York city Board of Education to place Cecelia Carey on the retired list,
with an annuity of one-half of the salary shy,
with an annuity of one-half of the salary shy,
with an annuity of one-half of the salary shy,
seeding the New York city Board of Education to place Cecelia Carey on the retired list,
with an annuity of one-half of the salary shy
Behool 56.

Benator G. A. Davis introduced a bill em-Senator G. A. Davis introduced a bill em-owering the Satte Comptroller to appoint a

"supervisor of taxes" for the State forest preserve, to hold office for six years, on a per diem compensation of \$15, which shall not exceed \$4,500 in any one year.

Senator Marshall's bill authorizing a renewal for three years of the present street cleaning contracts in Brooklyn was ordered to a third reading in the Senate.

Senator Mathy's bill, providing that not more than 25 cents for ten words and one cent for each additional word shall be charged for a telegram between two points in this State, no matter how many lines it may pass over, and that the telegraph companies shall pay the one-cent revenue tax required on all telegraph messages, was reported favorably in the Senate and referred to the Committee of the Whole.

Senator White to-day gave notice that at some future time he would move to suspend the rules in order to advance and pass his Civil Service bill.

The Assembit Ways and Means to-day re-

some future time he would move to suspend the rules in order to advance and pass his Civil Service bill.

The Assembly Ways and Means to-day reported favorably Assemblyman E. C. Brennan's bill to extend the time on which the commission appointed last year to lavestigate the decline of the commerce of the port of New York must report. The bill extends the life of the commission to Feb. I, 1900, by which time a report must be made to the Legislature.

Assemblyman Merten E. Lewis of Rochester to-day succeeded in having his bill providing for the repeal of the Horton Sparring law, which admits of fistic contests in incorporated clubs, favorably reported to the Assembly. The vote in committee was 7 to 3, with three members absent. Some of the members who voted for the favorable report cast their votes as a compliment to Mr. Lewis and reserved the right to oppose the hill on the floor of the Assembly.

Erastus Wiman's scheme to create a gignitic corporation which should gain control of the commerce of the canals of the State may be revived, if a bill presented to-day by Assemblyman Brennan of Brookyn, Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Navigation, is enacted. This is a bill to remove the restriction which has prevented Mr. Wiman, during the past two years, from creating a corporation of \$1,000,000 capital, to establish a line of steel barges on the State waterways of sufficient carrying capacity to handle practically the entire coal tonnage of the State. It provides for the repeal of that section of the law which prohibits companies or corporations of more than \$50,000 capitalization from operating towing lines upon the canals of the State.

PROCESS BUTTER.

Gov. Roosevelt's Hearing on the Bill Regu-

lating Its Manufacture and Sale. ALBANY, March 23.-Gov. Roosevelt gave a nearing this noon on Senator Ambler's bill regulating the manufacture, sale and branding of process butter, a compound of variou grades of butter worked over and manipulated by the use of preservatives. The hearing developed the fact that the State Department of Agriculture cannot prohibit the sale of butter of an inferior grade, and though this had no direct bearing on the measure under discussio it provoked from the Governor an expression to the effect that he hoped a bill aimed agains such butter would be speedily passed.

The opposition to the Process Butter bill was represented by a number of wholesale commission merchants, who were heard through Attorney J. S. Frost of this city. Mr. Frost admitted that they were opposed morely to the branding of the butter as such.

Gov. Roosevelt thought, under the circumstances, that it was unnecessary for any of the advocates of the bill to present any arguments, thus practically announcing that he would sign the bill.

the bill.

Those who were present in favor of the measure were: State Agricultural Commissioner Weiting, Deputy Commissioner Flanders, Deputy Commissioner Kracke of New York, Lewis Budendorf of Elgin, Ill., Secretary of the National Butter and Cheese Makers' Association of the United States; E. A. Callahan of Albany, Secretary of the New York Farmers' Congress; J. A. North of New York city, the head of a large butter exporting house, and E. Congress: J. A. North of New York city, the head of a large butter exporting house, and E. J. Wheeler, chemist of the State Department of Agriculture.

FACTORY INSPECTOR EXONERATED. Charges Made by the United Brotherhoo of Tailors Are Not Sustained.

ALBANY, March 23,-Mr. Jacob A. Riis, apcointed by Gov. Roosevelt to investigate the charges made by the United Brotherhood of Tailors that the State Factory laws are being violated in New York city and that Factory Inspector O'Leary is indifferent to that fact, today submitted a report to the Governor which concludes as follows: "My judgment is that the tailors have no

matifying interference by you. These sugger tions presented themselves during the inquiry as obviously fair and promising relief: First, that more factory inspectors are ur-gently needed in this city, the present force being wholly inadequate: second, that night being wholly inadequate; second, that night inspections are; necessary to prevent the bosses from working their hands over hours; third, that the inspectors could with advantage invoke the authority of the Board of Health oftener than they do, and thus save much time." time."

The Governor will refer this report to the legislative committees which now have before them the bills providing for the licensing of tenements and the increase in the number of factory inspectors.

Gov. Roosevelt to Be in Town To-Day. ALBANY, March 23.-Gov. Roosevelt announced to-day that he would go to New York city to-morrow, and in the evening attend the

military tournament now being held at Madison Square Garden. He will give testimony on Saturday before the United States Army Court of Inquiry as to the condition of the beef furnished the rough riders. A confer-ence with Senator Platt will probably be held on that day. He has invited Senator and Mrs. Platt to come to Albany next week and spend several days at the Executive Mansion. Rills Signed by the Governor.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 23.-The Governor to day signed the following bills: Senator Norton's, legalizing the issue of \$8,000 conds by the village of Sea Cliff for street improvements.

BMr. T. P. Sullivan's, legalizing the official acts of John J. Clute, nutary public in Richmond county.

Mr. Mazet's, authorizing the Gedding M. E. Church to convey real estate to the New York City Church Extension and Missionary Society of the M. E. Church Church.
Mr. Wilson's, incorporating the Trained Nurses'
United Aid Society of America.

Attendants of Kings County Supreme Court. ALBANY, March 23.-The following have been ants of the Supreme Court in Kings county:
Robert B. Keeler, George C. Manning, F. H.
Barre, James McMullany, Frank M. Rooney,
Richard E. Jackson, Frank L. Chadwick, and
John J. McQuade of Brooklyn.

New Corporations.

TRENTON, N. J., March 23.-The New England Electric Vehicle Transportation Company has filed articles of incorporation. The capital stock is \$25,000,000. The incorpora tors are Arthur Phillips and Augustus Treadwell, Jr., of New York, and James E. Hayes of

weil, 3r., of New Tork, and James E. Hayes of Camden.
Articles were filed with the Secretary of State to-day of the Maritime Improvement Company, capital \$3,000,000, with authority to build canals and docks and construct electric light, gas, telephone and telegraph plants. Among the incorporators are Charles H. Cramp of Philadelphia, Amsi L. Barber of New York and E. F. C. Young of Jersey City.
Articles were also filed by the Sargent Automatic Railway Signal Company, capital \$2,000, conditions and deal in railway semaphore signals.

Post Office Clerk His Own Lawyer.

Godfrey Boney, a Post Office clerk, was place on trial in the United States Circuit Court yesterday charged with rifling a special delivery letter containing \$4. The letter was a decoy sent by Inspectors Jacobs and Hartshorn, and the contents were found on Boney when he the contents were found on Boney when he was searched. Boney conducted his own defence, and declared that Isaac Epstein a Fost Office clerk, gave him the money in payment of a debt. Epstein denied this, but admitted that he borrowed money from Boney. Frank C. Robrig, chief clerk of the second division of the New York Post Office, denied he had ever said that the Jews in the office were too fresh and that Boney must get out. The trial will go on today.

Gen. Walker Arrested for the Bristol Shooting.

RICHMOND, Va., March 23.-Gen. James A. Walker was placed under arrest at Bristol to-night for shooting W. S. Hamilton on the night of March 11 while taking depositions in the Walker-Rhea Congress contest, Gen. Walker thereupon swore out a warrant for George E. Davis, Judge Rhen's private secretary, whom, he says, he saw fire the two shots that wounded him in the arm. W. S. Hamilton has recovered. Gen. Walker gave bond for his appearance at court and will return to his home at Wytheville to-morrow.

You Probably Have Similar Annoyances To those others have with help. If you care to make a sudden change, drop into any Brooklyn District Telagraph office and leave your "Help Wanted" advertisement for Tax Sus. It will bring the help that may be depended on. No extra charges.—Adv.

THE FOUR-TRACK FIGHT STEERING COMMITTEE NO LONGER FAVORS CONFISCATION,

Falled to Get Supplies in London.

Members Want to Throw the Whitney-Cro ker Amendments Overboard and Make the Fight on the Original Amsterdam Avenue Bill-Gov. Bousevelt's Position. The "steering committee" of the anti-four-

rack campaign, which united with William C Whitney and Richard Croker in an attempt to lestroy the Tnird Avenue Railroad's line in Amsterdam avenue, met yesterday at the office of the senior counsel. Simon Sterne, in the Delmonico building, and considered the advisability of breaking away from Mr. Croker and Mr. Whitney. The members of the "steering committee"—Simon Sterne John C. Coleman and John Alexander Beallvill recommend to Senator Ford and Assemblyman Fallows, when they come down from Albany to-night, that they throw Mr. Whitney's confiscation amendments to the winds and fight a fight, the honesty of which no one will question, on the original Amsterdam avenue

One of the reasons for the change of attitude of the members of the "steering committee" is that they fear that, although the Whitney confiscation bill might be forced through th Legislature, the Governor would not sign it Gov. Roosevelt has said all along that he fa vored any legislation which would give the res idents of the west side the relief they desired without doing an injustice to either of the railroads now running cars in the avenue. The original bill met with his approval, so it was understood by the leaders of the anti-four-track fight, but since Mr. Whitney's lawyers have tinkered with it, and told [Senator Ford what Tammany would vote for and what Tammany wouldn't vote for, the Amsterdam avenue campaigners haven't dared ask the Governor what he thought of the bill, and they have been going around trying to find somebody who knew what the Governor thought of the whole business. They have been told by members of the Legislature, who have talked with the Governor, that he doesn't want any bill sent to Governor, that he doesn't want any bill sent to him which destroys one railroad to build up another, and that he would veto the Whitney bill if it were sent to him in its present form.

One more "blunder" has been made in amending the bill. This is a kind of "backaction" blunder, and no one but a lawyer need try to understand it. In The Sun of yesterday it was told how John Alexander Beall of the "steering committee" had found that the printers had made a "blunder" in printing the bill with the Whitney amendment. They had added the confiscation amendment to the fourth section. Mr. Beall said, whereas they should have left out the old fourth section and substituted the amendment for it. As was pointed out in The Sun, the striking out of the old fourth section would leave the Third avenue road without the right of action to recover a cent of damages, should it relocate its tracks so that they overlapped the Metropolitan's.

When Mr. Sterne read in The Sun yesterday that Senator Grady, the Tammany leader in the Senate, had gone quietly abend, "at the suggestion of Mayor Van Wyek," and cut out the original section, which gave the Third Avenue road a right of action against the city for the loss of property it would suffer by meving its tracks; and when, besides, Mr. Sterne read that Mr. Beall, who had been in Albany looking after the property owners interests, said that the section was left in the bill by a "blunder," and was, therefore, stricken out, the senior counsel for the west side property owners called Mr. Beall and Mr. Coleman to his office in a hurry. He told them that they had been hoodwinked, and that the bill could never go through in the shape Senator Grady had left it. So the bill will have to be amended again unless Mr. Whitney says that the Third avenue road shan't be compensated for any loss whatsoever.

Not one of the members of the "steering committee" would say last night after the him which destroys one railroad to build up

less Mr. Whitney says that the Third avenue road shan't be compensated for any loss what-soever.

Not one of the members of the "steering committee" would say last night after the meeting in Mr. Sterne's office that he was ready to break away from Mr. Whitney and Mr. Croker, but The Sun has it, on the best authority, that the leaders of the Amsterdam svenue fight are tired of being buffeted around by the Metropolitan Street Railway and Tammany Hall, and are heartly slek of the political game as it is played at Aihany. One of the leaders of the fight said last night, asking that his name be not used, because he didn't want to be unjustly accused of lack of loyalty:

"If we had stuck to the original bill we would have won out, despite the opposition of the railroad interests. We would have stuck to that bill if some of our committee hadn't become weak-kneed. This is how it was: The property-owners' bill provided (1) that there shouldn't be any tracks within twenty feet of the curb: (2) that the Third Avenue could overlap its tracks on the Metropolian's, so as to get within the limit, and (3) that the city should pay the Third Avenue for the small loss of property it would suffer.

"That seemed a pretty fair sort of bill, but some of us got frightened and thought it wouldn't pass. Some of us had friends in Tammany Hall, and we learned that Mr. Croker would give us his support if some little changes' were made in the bill. The changes were desired by the Metropolitan Company, and so there popped up at Albany Senator Grady with an amendment.

"Now, that Grady amendment provided for wo things: [1] That the courts should deterpany, and so there popped up at Albany Senator Grady with an amendment.

"Now, that Grady amendment provided for two things: (1) That the courts should determine upon the conditions of relocating the Third Avenue's tracks, and (2) that the courts should determine whether the Third Avenue should get out, and that if it did get out the Metropolitan and the city were to pay the damages. A great hue and ery went up that Grady had killed the bill and that Croker had decived the people. Grady was called all the names under the sun for his 'threachery.'

"But we found that Senator Grady had simply done what Mr. Croker, at the request of the Metropolitan, had told him to do. Then we met the Metropolitan lawyers to compromise, and the Ford amendment was the result. Now, se you know, and as any fair man can see, the Ford amendment made over. They both had one aim, to drive the Third Avenue out of the street and leave the Metropolitan in full control. We didn't like the Ford amendment much better than the Grady amendment, and we said so, but Mr. Elihu Hoot told us that the Metropolitan would accept no less, and to get the Democratic votes we had to accept Mr. Root's ultimatum. We were willings to sacrifice the Third Avenue or the Metropolitan, and we accepted the aid of Mr. Whitney to drive out Mr. Lauterbach. I think we made a mistake."

LONG LIFE AND OTHER LONG THINGS. Lots of Time in a Hundred Years, as Ora-tors of the Hundred-Year Club Believe.

The first general meeting of the Hundred Year Club (for the study of longevity) was held in the Astor Gallery of the Waldorf-Astoria ast evening. Judging from the club's first necting the members have already begun to live on the hundred-year basis. There were a lozen addresses on the programme and most of the speakers were heedless of the time limit

dozen addresses on the programme and most of the speakers were heedless of the time limit set for them. At 11:30 there were still two or three more persons to speak.

The speakers who did not overstay their time were the kev. Dr. Joseph Rilverman, who said at the beginning of his address, "Blessed is the man who invented clocks; blessed is the man who uses them," and Mrs. Almon Hensley, President of the Bociety for the Study of Life ("composed of mothers"). She rapped those who had preceded her as only a woman who had studied life could ran them for having forgotten the rights of later comers. Mrs. Hensley appeared in a Greek gown.

Dr. H. W. Wiley, chemist of the Department of Agriculture at Washington, quoted a New York Coroner as saying: "In the performance of hundreds of autopsies I have frequently come across cases where it was impossible to find a cause of death."

If that was so, Dr. Wiley said, then there was no reason why, with proper care, life shouldn't be prolonged to near the century mark.

Dr. Wiley said that he believed the time was

be prolonged to near the century mark.

Dr. Wiley said that he believed the time was coming when men and women would be fed from infancy on proper food.

Dr. T. H. Kellogg, a vegetarian of Battle Creek, treated the audience to a pathological ure. L. H. Bailey. Dr. George W. Grover, tter S. Logan, Miss E. A. Fletcher and Dr. hia McClelland were among others who

Cleaner Streets Promised in Brooklyn. A delegation of the Brooklyn Women's Health Protective Association, headed by Mrs. Scrimgeour, the President, called upon Deputy Street geour, the President, called upon Deputy Street Cleaning Commissioner Quinn yesterday and protested against the renewal of the McGarry contract. It was contended by Mrs. Scrimgeour that much better service could be secured if the city did the work itself. Mr. Quinn said that no contract would be given out, and that on April 1 between 500 and 600 men would be put to work, and that the force would be gradually increased. "If the people will bear with the department for a little while longer I am sure they will be satisfied with the work the department will do. I will give every street in Brooklyn a thorough cleaning."

French Action on the Niger and the Nile

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Paris, March 23.-At the Cabinet Council held to-day M. Delenssé, Minister of Foreign Affairs, stated that on March 27 he would lay upon the table of the Chamber of Deputies a bill approving the Niger and Nile conventions.

FILIPINO AGENTS AFTER ARMS. Agencillo and Marti Go to Paris, Having

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. LONDON, March 23.-Agoneillo and Marti, the Filipino Commissioners, have started for Paris. In well-informed quarters it is said that Agon-cillo is greatly mortified at the rebuffs he has received from the British Government, whose sympathy with the Filipinos be endeavored to arouse, and that he expects better treatment at the hands of the French.

Agoneillo's real object, however, is to obtain arms and ammunition, for the purchase of which he has made unsuccessful overtures to several London and Birr ingham firms. It is of the Paris Junta he will be able to obtain the supplies he seeks in France, in the event of which he intends to charter a small vessel at Brest or St. Malo to transport his purchases to the Philippines.

A former German Consul who recently left Manila has addressed a letter to a friend, in which he says: "The success of the American arms is not doubted for a moment. They will who cannot maintain themselves in the mountains. Their entire subjection is only a matte

YOUNG AGNEW IN BOW STREET COURT New Yorker's Fifth Appearance There i

Two Weeks for Drunkenness. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. Lovnos, March 23.-John Holmes Agnew who describes himself as a New York printer o-day made his fifth appearance in the Boy Street Police Court within a fortnight charge with being drunk and disorderly. The prisoner produced a letter, written by himself, addressed to United States Ambassador Choate. asking the Ambassador to pay his fine. He said that Mr. Choate was his personal friend, and had lately lent him a half dollar when he was "stone broke." Consequently, he added, the Ambassador was his particular personal friend. Agnew was remanded in custody for a

week.

This news of Holmes Agnew won't surprise any one who knows the man. He comes of a good family, his uncle, the late Dr. D. Hayes Agnew, having been a prominent Philadelphia physician. Holmes Agnew took to drink with avidity, and in this city the Tenderioin claimed him for its own. He became one of the all night habitues of the district. Two years ago he was connected for a time with a weekly publication as an advertising solicitor. Agnew's commonest trick was to enter a Broadway restaurant without a cent and order a hig meal. From the restaurant he went cheerfully to the police station. He got to be known as a beat, and after a time none of the big restaurants would serve him. Twice he was arrested for begging in Broadway. At the solicitation of some family friends he was committed to Bellevue a year ago to be examined as to his sanity. He was detained a week and set free. He went back to his haunts in the Tenderloin, but after a couple of months disappeared.

BEST MOTIVE POWER OF WARSHIPS Chief Engineer Melville's Suggestions to British Naval Architects.

Special Cable Despatch to THE BUN. LONDON, March 23 .- At a meeting of the Institution of Naval Architects, held to-day, the Earl of Hopetoun. President of the institution presiding, Engineer-in-Chief George W. Met ville, chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering of the United States Navy, read a paper on the subject of the motive power of warships, in which he called attention to the remarkable performances of the American cruisers Columbia and Minneapolis. He advocated the use of triple screws and engines on the best men-ofwar for many reasons, both of a tactical and en gineering character, among which was the fact that the vessels would be less likely to becom disabled.

Triple screws and engines, with a reductio in the size of both engines and propellers, he by 5 per cent, in the case of 15-knot ships and 12 per cent, in the case of 24-knot ships.

GERMAN APPEAL FROM SAMOA.

Government Asked to Annul the Treaty and Establish a Protectorate. Special Cable Despatch to Ture Spy BERLIN, March 23 .- The Lokalanzeiger pub ishes a petition from the Germans in Samon addressed to the Chancellor, Prince Hohen lohe, in which the petitioners declare that will henceforth be impossible for them to recognize the authority of Chief Justice Cham

They also ask if the German Governmen cannot annul the treaty and declare a German protectorate over the islands, or at least accord to Germans complete equality of privilege and compel the officials in Samoa to understand that Germany will oppose the partition of the

COREAN CABINET DISMISSED. Two of the Ministers Banished for Radical Changes in the Principal Offices.

Special Cable Despatch to THE BUN. YOROHAMA, March 23.-Advices received here from Seoul say that the entire Corean Cabinet has been dismissed and two of the Ministers have been banished, owing to the wholesale changes which the Ministry made in the prin-

Proposal to Settle the Alaska Boundary Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

LONDON, March 23 .- In the House of Com nons to-day. Mr. Brodrick, for the Government, said that the United States had made proposal for a modus vivendi in the matter of the Alaska boundaries, which England wa considering. The Government, he said, had no information of any collisions arising from border disputes.

Silver Medal for the Pavonia's Captain. Special Cable Desputch to THE SUN.

LONDON, March 23.-Lloyds have decided to bestow the silver medal upon the Captain and Chief Engineer of the Cunard line steamship Pavonia in recognition of their skilful and heroic services in saving the ship while she was disabled at sea and in bringing her into

The Bulgaria Leaves the Azores. Special Cable Despetch to THE SUN.

PONTA DELGADA, Azores, March 23,-The Hamburg-American line steamship Bulgaria, having completed her repairs, sailed for Hamburg this morning, accompanied by the steam-ship Hungaria of the same line, which came here from Hamburg with gear to repair the Bulgaria.

tacked by Tunregs. Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN

Paris, March 23.-Information has been re ceived here that the Foureau-Lamy expediion, which was supposed to be the French expedition reported to have been attacked by Tuaregs in the Sahara, has been at Agades for several months. The expedition has met with no mishap, and all comprising it are well

MOVEMENTS OF NAVAL VESSELS,

Transport Buffalo Leaves Manila for New York-The Badger at Valparaise

WASHINGTON, March 23.-Admiral Dowey cabled the Navy Department to-day that the transport Buffalo had left Manila for New York. She carries enlisted men of the navy York. She carries enlisted men of the navy whose terms have expired. The Solace, which arrived at Manila vesterday, and the Buffalo will make trips between New York and Manila and San Francisco and Manila twice a year. The auxiliary cruiser Badger arrived at Valparaiso, sesterday and left in a few hours for Callac. She is on her way to Manila.

The cruiser Nawark salled from Brooklyn today, presumably in obedience to her orders to join Rear Admiral Sampson's squadron of evolution, although the telegram received at the Navy Department did not tell her destination.

tion. The gunboat Dolphin left the Washington Navy Yard for Norfolk to-day. She has been directed to blow up a wreck off the North Carolina coast. This wreck is directly in the path of constwiss vessels and three ships have already collided with it. In reporting a collision between his vessels and the wreck one skipper said that his craft, on striking the obstruction, bounded back like an india-rubber ball. Naval officers say they have never before heard of such a remarkable occurrence.

MAINTAIN FREIGHT RATES.

IMPORTANT CONFERENCE OF RAIL-ROAD MEN IN WASHINGTON.

Representatives of Thirty of the Grent Western Trunk Lines Pledge Themselves to Maintain the Legally Pub lished Freight Rates at Any Cost. WASHINGTON, March 23,-At a meeting of representatives of thirty great Western rail way trunk lines in the rooms of the Interstate

Commerce Commission to-day a pledge was taken by every member to maintain the legally published f eight rates at any cost, and means were taken to carry the resolution into effect. The meeting was the outcome of a situation which has for some time made it exceedingly hard for many of the principal rodas of the country to realize sufficiently large earnings to pay dividends, and a general impression among railway men that some thing must be done at once to relieve existing conditions. Among the roads repre sented were the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy, the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul the Chicago and Alton, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fé, the Wabash, the Big Four, the Chesapeake and Ohio, the Illinois Central, the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf, and the Gould ines. In every case the representative was either the President of the road or a leading executive officer authorized to speak for his company. The meeting lasted continuously from 11

clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the afternoon, with a brief intermission for lu eon, which was served in the rooms of the commission. A committee representing the principal Western lines was appointed, and that committee will meet with the members of the interstate Commerce Commission to-morrow for the purpose of devising definite ways of insuring the maintenance of rates by all the roads under all circumstances.

It was unanimously agreed by the railroad representatives that since Jan. I last there has been a uniform maintenance of published freight tariffs. This, it was said by some members, was a phenomenal fact, in view of all the circumstances of interstate and foreign trade. It was further declared by all those present that there just now appears to be scarcely a suspicion that any line in the territory represented at the conference is failing to maintain the published tariff schedules filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission according to law. on, which was served in the rooms of the

sented at the conterence is mining to manufacture the published tariff schedules filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission according to law.

There was a great variety of comment as to the influence that would affect the adjustment of rates and the movement of traffic. The questions especially discussed were the relation of export and domestic rates on grain and grain products and the relation of rates from the great products good the relation of the same region to the North Atlantic scaports. The relation of Gulf and Atlantic port rates was admitted to be a far greater question to day than ever before. Within a comparatively recent time a number of large trunk lines in the Southwest have reached a very efficient physical condition, have secured abundant financial backing and have become active and aggressive in business methods. They have the natural advantage of comparative nearness to tidewater on the south and of descending grade. The interests of these roads have in recent years been aided also by the Government appropriations for the improvement of harbors at Galveston. New Orleans and other gulf ports, and by the construction of first-class terminal facilities for the handling of grain and ores.

There was a wide divergence of views between the railroad men as to the advisability of continuing the practice of giving exporters a preference in the matter of rates to the Atlantic seaboard, but the general opinion was that export rate should be continued lower than the domestic rate.

The committee appointed to devise practical means to carry out the objects of the conference compists of President Burt of the Union Pacific, Vice-President Morton of the Santa Fe, Iresident Washburn of the Kansas City. Fort Sect and Memphis, Mr. Bird of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, President Yoskum of the St. Louis and San Francisco and Mr. Warner of the Gould lines.

STONE MOUNDS IN ALASKA.

Even if They Are Russian Boundary Mark

WASHINGTON, March 23 .- Dr. H. S. Pritchett uperintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Sur vey, says that the reports from Alaska regard ing the discovery of stone mounds in the Klon dike country, 100 miles east of Dawson City are "all nonsense and rubbish." These mounds, according to the stories telegraphed from Victoria and other points, it was believed marked the eastern boundary of the Czar' the United States succeeded by the terms of the treaty of sale in 1867 to all of the territory

the treaty of sale in 1897 to all of the territory then under Russian dominion, therefore Dawson City and the whole Klondike region belonged to the United States.

"Even if the mounds were Russian boundary marks, which I have not the least idea they are," said Dr. Pritchett. "it would mean nothing regarding the boundary line between Alaska and British Columbia—would not change the situation one lota, nor give the United States a single additional inch of territory. By the treaty of 1825 between Russians. change the situation one iota, nor give the United States a single additional inch of territory. By the treaty of 1825 between Russia and Great Britain, the boundary between Alaska and British Columbia, from Mount St. Elias to the Prozen Ocean on the north, was fixed at the 141st degree of west longitude. When the United States bought Alaska, it bought subject to the provisions of that treaty, and the only question is one of scientific determination of that boundary. It has been located at two points by United States surveyors, at the crossing of Yukon River and of Forty Mile Creek, By that determination Dawson City is 100 miles or thereabouts east of the line and that far in British territory.

"Nothing can now alter the fact that the Klondike gold region is British territory," continued Dr., Pritchett, but if the Russian Pienipotentiary who negotiated the treaty fixing the boundary line between Alaska and British Columbia had only stuck to his original proposition the Klondike would have belonged to the United States. Throughout the negotiations the only boundary line discussed was the 136th degree of west longitude, but when it came to making the treaty, for some reason not disclosed by the correspondence relating to that document, the Russian consented to the insertion of the line of the 141st degree as the boundary. That added a strip about 250 miles wide to British territory, wherein lies the rich and valuable Klondike of to-day. But the Russian of 1825 had no idea of the value of the territory he thus surrendered."

THE SAMOAN DISPUTE.

Object of the Meeting of Consuls Called by Rear Admiral Kantz.

Washington, March 23.-It became known o-day, as a result of the publication of Berlin press despatches concerning the receipt there f a report on Samoan affairs from Herr Rose the German Consul-General at Apla, that the meeting arranged by Rear Admiral Kautz of meeting arranged by Rear Admiral Kautz of the United States Navy between the consular representatives at Apia of the United States, Great Britain and Germany was for the pur-pose of deciding the question of whether Ma-lieota Tanu or Matasia is entitled to the Sa-mean crown. It is understood by the three signatory powers that if the three consular officers agree on one of these rival candidates their decision will be indorsed by the United States, Great Britain and Germany. If they do not agree, negotiations for the settlement of the question will be reopened. Shot Rimself Through the Head.

WASHINGTON, March 23.-Hart Guinnip, aged 41, a real estate dealer, committed suicide to-day by shooting himself through the head with a revolver. He came here about three months ago, leaving his wife and little daughter in Elimira, N. Y. The death recently of the little girl greatly depressed him.

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REBUKE TO GEN. MILES.

The Real Meaning of the Order Issued on

WARRINGTON, March 23.—There was a great deal of talk in military circles to-day over th meaning of the order, signed by Secretary Alger just before his departure from Washing ton yesterday, in regard to inspection trips made by officers of the Inspector-General's Department without the authority of the Sec retary of War. The order, which was officially published to-day, is general in its application and does not specifically name the Inspector General's Department. It is as follows:

"Ordered, that hereafter no chief or acting chief of staff corps shall be detailed to any duty by any authority without the approval of the Secretary of War." Some officers contended to-day that it was

not intended as a rebuke to anybody, but was

nerely designed to correct any uncertainty as to the method of ordering officers of staff de partments to perform special duty. THE SU reporter knows, however, from a trustworth; ource that the War Department was practi cally forced to issue the order on account o mauthorized investigations which were being nade by officers of the Inspector-General's department into matters on which the War De partment was instituting official inquiries The order, 'it was explained to-day, revokes another order issued March 23, 1898, in which the officers of the Inspector-General's Depart ment were forbidden to make investigations unless on the authority of the Secretary of War or the Major-General commanding the army It was contended to-day that the order of It was contended to-day that the order of a year ago was construed by Gen. Miles to give him authority to order inspection officers to make investigations. The department, however, came to the conclusion, after looking into the matter, that the Major-General commanding was exercising his authority in that regard in opposition to the Court of Inquiry to investigate the charges made by Gen. Miles in regard to the character of the beef furnished to the troops in the field. The order was intended as a rebuke to those who were using the machinery of the Inspector-General's Department to further their own ends in the controversy with which the beef court has been charged with the settlement. to further their own ends in the controversy with which the beef court has been charged with the settlement.

It was said to-day that the order was the direct fresult of the refusal of the Paymaster General to allow charges for mileage submitted by officers of the Inspector-General's Department, who had been gathering evidence independently of the Court of Inquiry without the authority of the Secretary of War. Gen. Miles had directed Inspector-General Brekinridge to investigate the former's charges about rations furnished the soldiers in the field, and when Gen. Breckinridge went to Cuba and Porto Rico on an official tour he turned over the work of carrying out Gen. Miles's order to Lieut-Col. Garlington of his department. The Paymaster General, it is understood, declined to allow the travelling expenses of Col. Garlington, who recently visited Chicago and Omaha to make inquiries about the matters with which the Court of Inquiry is concerned. When Gen. J. M. Wilson, Chief of Engineers, heard of this order he went to Adit-Gen. Corbin and asked if the order was intended to apply to the Corps of Engineers. Gen. Wilson showed that he possessed specific authority to order engineer officers from point to point without the authority of the Secretary of War In connection with river and harbor work. Gen. Corbin assured Gen. Wilson that the order did not apply to the Chief of Engineers.

REFRIGERATED BEEF DESTROYED. A Board of Survey Fixes the Responsibilit

WASHINGTON, March 23,-The Army Board of Survey, appointed to inquire into and fix the responsibility for the condemnation of 300,000 pounds of refrigerated beef sent to Porto Rico on the transport Manitoba and later condemned at Montauk Point and destreyed, has practically concluded its investigation. Col. James M. Moore, Assistant Quartermaster-General, who is President of the board, said to-day that' the board would sub-Lit its report within the next ten days, and that little work remained to be done before

concluding the inquiry.

The order convening the Board of Survey directed it to examine into and report upor the responsibility for the loss of this beef, the property of Swift & Co. cf Chicago: to ascer ain and report if due and proper effort was made to feed this beef to the troops in Port Rico and to fix the responsibility if due and proper effort was not made: to ascertain and report the character and quality of the re rigerated beef referred to; to ascertain and re port if it was good and fit meat for issue, if i had been subjected to any chemical processe mad been subjected to any chemical processes whatever, and to report whether or not the United States is responsible for the loss of the beef, or who, if any one, is responsible for its loss, and whether, in its opinion, Swiff & Co, should or should not be reimbursed for the beef. The cost offthe beef has been estimated by Swift & Co, at nearly \$27,000.

While the conclusions of the board have not been announced officially, it is learned that it has determined that this cargo of beef was in good condition when it left this country for

been announced officially, it is learned that it has determined that this cargo of beef was in good condition when it left this country for Porto Rico on the Manitoba. The report will show that it arrived in Porto Rico in good condition and that it bore no evidence of having been treated with chemicals. It will state positively that it is the opinion of the board that the beef was not treated with chemicals and that it was in good and fine condition for issue to the troops. The report will show that the beef was not issued to the troops on shore but that while the vessel with it on board was at Poncean order was issued directing the purchase of native beef for use by the troops. No proper effort was made to issue it to the solders, and the Manitoba was finally compelled to leave Porto Rico with the meat on board. While on the way back to the United States the vessel ran on a reef, the refrigerating process became exhausted, the meat spoiled before the vessel reached Montauk Point and it had to be condemned and destroyed.

The report will include many statements from army officers who were stationed in Porto Rico and some statements from those who ate some of the meat brought ashore at Ponce from the Manitoba, a small portion of which was used and found to be of good quality and in excellent condition.

DEMANDED AMERICAN PROTECTION

An Anarchist Arrested in Austria with Borrowed Naturalization Paners

WASHINGTON, March 23.-The attention of the police in Prague, Austria, was recently called to a stranger there, who by his swag-gering airs made himself obnoxious at the cafés and music halls. He was finally arrested. whereupon he demanded the protection of the United States Consul, alleging that he was naturalized American citizen. He gave the name of Anton Moresz and said he served during the Spanish-American war in the Third California Volunteers, participating in the bat tle of Santiago and receiving decorations for conspicuous bravery. He was in Europe, he said, on a furiough. Consul Donzelmann found his naturalization papers in good shape. They were issued in Chicago four or five years ago The man said that his army uniform and decorations were in his trunk at the hotel. The uniform proved to be that of a Polish officer, while the alleged decoration was a red silk sash with green rosettes at the ends. Under a sharp examination by Consul Donzelmann the man confessed that his name was Lawczyniski, and that he had borrowed the naturalization papers from his friend Moresz, who lived in Oakland, Cal.

Lawczyniski had been in the United States for a number of years, was married and lived in Oakland. The Prague police interdiscovered that he was formerly a noted Russian Anarchist, who had disappeared some years ago. The case was taken up by the State Department, but no trace was found of Moresz, neither his name nor that of Lawczyniski appearing on the rolls of the Third California Volunteers. Mrs. Lawczyniski, however, was found at 105 Stelner street, San Francisco. Her husband, she said, had been in Europe for about a year and was now in Switzerland.

Lawczyniski is still under arrest at Prague, He will probably be prosecuted for periury for awearing falsely as to naturalization papers before an American Consul in Switzerland in order to obtain passports to Austria. The man said that his army uniform and

Capt. Wildes to Be Captain of the Brook

WASHINGTON, March 23.-Capt. Frank Wildes has been assigned to duty as Captain of the Brooklyn Navy Yard. He will relieve Capt. G. W. Sumner. The change will take effect April 1. when Capt. Sumner will go to his home and waitorders. In the battle of Manila Bay Capt. Wildes commanded the cruiser Boston.

An Alabama College Building Burned. BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 23.-The Monteguma University building was burned at Besse-mer to-day. The building was a huge frame three-story structure constructed in Pittsburg for the Mexican Government. It cost \$60.000, and was used at the New Orleans Exposition fifteen years ago. It was then sold at auction for \$600 and erected at Bessemer in the boom days.

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The Roumanian Sails for This City with the Bodies of 674 Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, March 23.-The Quartermaser-General received information to-day of the departure of the transport Roumanian from Santiago for New York with the bodies of 554 soldiers who died in Cuba and 120 who died in Porto Rico. It is expected that the harmsrorto Rico. It is expected that the alian will arrive in New York on Tuesd provision has been made for the luntransportation of the unclaimed lessing the standard cemeters at Arlington. Less ington, where they will be interred in a ground set apart for the Cuban andican dead. After unloading her easier and the standard of the leader on board the remainder of the leader now being disinterred. It is estimated that the cuban control of the leader that the cuban cuban control of the leader that the cuban cub

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